

This bill is an updated version of the reauthorization bill that passed the House last Congress. H.R. 3746 would strengthen the Pell Grant program, empower parents and students through "sunshine" and transparency and college costs and accreditation, improve college access programs and much more. Unfortunately, the House has yet to act on comprehensive reforms.

The budget bill enacted earlier this year was a missed opportunity of epic proportions. But worse than that, it was a classic example of how a secretive rushed legislative process can produce harmful unintended consequences.

In rushing to the floor with the reconciliation bill, Democrats made mistakes. Several provisions included in the reconciliation bill need to be fixed so that everyone is treated fairly under the law and the law can be implemented as Congress intended. Additionally, the Department of Education has already reached out to Congress to discuss one of the new grant programs, which they see as near to impossible to implement as written.

Had Congress had time to contemplate the impact of the provisions in the new programs, we may have been able to avoid all the confusion that now must be corrected. Today, in addition to extending these programs, we are being forced to fix mistakes made by the flawed budget reconciliation bill. Some of these mistakes can be corrected because the Department of Education has yet to act on them, despite the October 1 implementation date. Other legislative errors have already been implemented by the Department of Education, rendering a correction costly, if not impossible.

Already our hands are tied, and we are unable to fairly and fully correct the problems created through reconciliation. Rather than repeat this rushed process again, I hope that we will move forward with the Higher Education Act reauthorization in a bipartisan and thoughtful manner.

I look forward to working with Chairmen MILLER and HINOJOSA and Ranking Member KELLER, and all of my colleagues on the Education and Labor Committee, in completing our work in the coming months.

In the meantime, however, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this extension.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I will close by once again strongly encouraging my colleagues to support this important legislation, thanking the distinguished ranking member of the Education and Labor Committee.

Mr. Speaker I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2258.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### REREFERRAL OF H.R. 2744, AIRLINE FLIGHT CREW TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Education and Labor, House Administration and Oversight and Government Reform be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2744) to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews, and that the bill be rereferred to the Committee on Education and Labor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

#### PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 866

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 866, a bill originally introduced by Representative Norwood of Georgia, for the purposes of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

#### MAKING PERMANENT THE AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SPECIAL POSTAGE STAMP TO SUPPORT BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1236) to make permanent the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a special postage stamp to support breast cancer research, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1236

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.

Section 414(h) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking "2007" and inserting "2011".

#### SEC. 2. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

The National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense shall each submit to Congress and the Government Accountability Office an annual report concerning the use of any amounts that it received under section 414(c) of title 39, United States Code, including a description of any significant advances or accomplishments, during the year covered by the report, that were funded, in whole or in part, with such amounts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, as a sponsor of H.R. 1236, the bill would make permanent the breast cancer research stamp, which first went on sale on July 29, 1998.

After several discussions with the Postal Service, I offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 1236 during the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia markup on September 18, 2007.

The amendment retained the Postal Service's flexibility by reauthorizing the breast cancer stamp for an additional 4 years and strengthens the bill's reporting requirements. The new reporting requirements would assess the breast cancer stamp's effectiveness and appropriateness and the cost to the Postal Service for administering the program to find a cure for breast cancer.

The amendment was agreed to by voice vote. H.R. 1236, as amended, was reported from the Oversight Committee on September 20, 2007, by a voice vote.

In America, breast cancer is reported as the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women after lung cancer. The American Cancer Society estimated 178,480 women will be diagnosed this year with invasive breast cancer. In the U.S., approximately 40,000 will die.

The Postal Service has sold over 785.6 million breast cancer research stamps from which \$54.626 million have been transferred to the National Institutes of Health and DOD for breast cancer research and awareness.

I encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 1236 and urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I want to commend my good friend, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), for his remarks and his work on this legislation.

I rise today to urge passage of H.R. 1236, to extend the authority of the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp to support breast cancer research.

Those of us in Congress received a tragic reminder of the need for continued research into this disease with the passing of our beloved colleague, Jo Ann Davis; and we thank the majority, in particular Mr. CLAY, for taking the opportunity to honor her memory.